



Lessons Learned Information Sharing

www.LLIS.gov

April 2007 Lessons Learned Information Sharing Newsletter

Contents

- [FY07 Homeland Security Grant Program](#)
- [National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza](#)
- [International Safety & Security Conference \(ISSC\) 2007](#)
- [Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program Awards](#)
- [Survey on Information Sharing Attitudes and Practices](#)
- [School Emergency Management Planning](#)
- [Original Content Posted Since Last Newsletter](#)
 - [7 Lessons Learned](#)
 - [11 Practice Notes](#)
 - [2 Good Stories](#)
- [Upcoming LLIS.gov Conference Participation](#)
- [2007 National Campus Security Summit](#)

FY07 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)

LLIS.gov Launches HSGP Resource Center

LLIS.gov has partnered with the Department of Homeland Security's Technical Assistance Division to house a dedicated resource center for the FY07 Homeland Security Grant Program. The [FY07 HSGP Resource Center](#) serves as a repository of guidance, forms, templates, and general information on the HSGP. Additionally, the Resource Center features practices and guidelines from the Enhancing Grants Management Technical Assistance Program. The Resource Center contains more than 150 documents, most of which are not available outside of LLIS.gov. Log onto [LLIS.gov](#) and click on [FY07 Homeland Security Grant Program](#) under LLIS PARTNERS.

[\[Top of Page\]](#)

National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza

New Resource on the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza

LLIS.gov recently launched a resource page for the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza. The [National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza](#) page highlights content on LLIS.gov that were emphasized in the Strategy and Implementation Plan. The resource page also includes the most up-to date information on the White House's Implementation Plan Status, as well as links to the World Health Organization's Epidemic and Pandemic Alert and Response Web site and LLIS.gov's Pandemic Influenza page. Log onto [LLIS.gov](#) and click on [National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza](#) under FEATURED TOPICS.

[\[Top of Page\]](#)

International Safety & Security Conference (ISSC) 2007

Special Discount for LLIS.gov Members

Emergency Corps, a national education and training outreach program geared toward business continuity and resilience, is hosting the annual International Safety and Security Conference, which will take place on 30-31 May in New York City. LLIS.gov is partnering with Emergency Corps to conduct a focus group discussion on information sharing among private and public sector entities. Moreover, LLIS.gov members will receive a 10% discount off the registration fee. To find out more about the ISSC, click [here](#).

[\[Top of Page\]](#)

Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) Awards

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Announces FY2007 CEDAP Application Period

DHS recently announced the start of the application period for the 2007 CEDAP awards. CEDAP strengthens regional response, mutual aid, and interoperable communications capabilities across the nation by providing local homeland security partners essential equipment and equipment training that they may not otherwise be able to afford.

Eligibility for CEDAP is limited to law enforcement agencies, fire, and other emergency responder organizations with specific financial and capability needs. Equipment and equipment training awards are offered in five categories: personal protective equipment; thermal imaging, night vision, and video surveillance tools; chemical and biological detection tools; information technology and risk management tools; and interoperable communications equipment.

The program application is available through the Responder Knowledge Base at www.rkb.mipt.org. **The application submission period is open via the web site from April 25 through 11:59 p.m. EDT, May 29.**

For more information on CEDAP and other DHS grant programs please visit www.dhs.gov.

[\[Top of Page\]](#)

Survey on Information Sharing Attitudes and Practices

Participate in a Survey Conducted by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism

Researchers from the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START)—a United States Department of Homeland Security-funded Center of Excellence—seek responses from *LLIS.gov* members to a 10-minute survey. This information will be used to better understand opportunities and challenges associated with homeland security information sharing. *No identifying information will be collected from the answers you provide.* Please click here to begin the survey: <http://www.hostedsurvey.com/takesurvey.asp?c=inform>.

[\[Top of Page\]](#)

School Emergency Management Planning

Request for Feedback on School Emergency Management

Although predicting crisis incidents like the recent tragedy in Blacksburg, Virginia is often not possible, there are steps schools, universities and related emergency response organizations can take to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. To that end, *LLIS.gov* has already collected approximately 300 plans, templates, strategies and after-action reports related to campus emergencies, which can be accessed on the *LLIS.gov* [School Emergency Management Planning](#) page.

Additionally, we would like to hear from you directly about any actions you or your institution have taken in recent days in response to the tragic events at Virginia Tech. Have you made any changes in daily operations, planning, or coordination? What are you doing differently on your campus, especially in regards to security, safety education, emergency planning, and response protocols? Any information you provide would be valuable. Our goal simply is to offer school and university officials with ideas they may not have considered. *LLIS.gov* plans to compile this information and present it on the School Emergency Management Planning Page of our website.

[Click here to fill in an easy-to-use template](#) with anything you would like to share. Please note that you have the option to post your comments anonymously. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to email us at schoolsafety@llis.dhs.gov.

[\[Top of Page\]](#)

New Original Content Posted Since Last Newsletter

The *LLIS.gov* Team continues to post new Lessons Learned, Best Practices, Practice Notes, and Good Stories to the system on a regular basis. Weekly updates about new original content can be found in the "NEW *LLIS* CONTENT" box on the homepage of *LLIS.gov*. Since the last newsletter, *LLIS.gov* has posted the following original content:

Lessons Learned

- **[Crisis Communications: Releasing Public Information in a Timely Manner](#)** (*FEMA Regions I and II Hurricane Preparedness Tabletop Exercise, 2006*)
Emergency managers should make certain that critical public information is approved and released in a timely manner. This can help ensure that the public receives vital information in time to make critical decisions.
- **[Donations Management: Employing Public Messages to Request Only Financial Donations after a Disaster](#)** (*FEMA Regions I and II Hurricane Preparedness Tabletop Exercise, 2006*)
Jurisdictions should consider releasing public messages following a disaster stating that only financial donations will be accepted for disaster relief efforts. This can help response officials avoid the difficulties of managing and distributing unsolicited goods and services donated by the public.
- **[Exercise Conduct: Limiting the Number of Emergency Operations Center Personnel](#)** (*Iowa District 1 Multi-County Functional Exercise, 2005*)
During emergency operations center (EOC) exercises, exercise controllers should limit personnel at the EOC to those whose presence would be required during actual emergency operations.
- **[Exercise Conduct: Prohibiting Spontaneous Injects During Exercise Play](#)** (*Tahoma Resilience Full-scale Exercise, 2006*)
Exercise planners should explicitly instruct participants not to add spontaneous injects during exercise play. The exercise control cell is the only entity that should add, change, or create injects.
- **[Interoperable Communications: Incorporating Periodic Roll Calls into Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans](#)** (*17th Thunder Over Louisville, Kentucky Derby Festival, 2006*)
Urban Area Security Initiative areas should incorporate initial and follow-up roll calls into their Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans for major incidents. The communications unit should perform roll calls upon activation of an Emergency Operations Center and periodically thereafter. This practice verifies that channels of communication are properly established and ensures that incident/unified command can properly manage incident response.
- **[Mass Evacuation: Using Regular Public Bus Routes to Evacuate Residents without Personal Transportation](#)** (*Hurricane Floyd, 1999*)
Emergency managers should consider using regularly scheduled public bus routes to evacuate residents without access to personal transportation. This can help ensure that residents are transported to designated evacuation staging areas in an efficient and timely manner.
- **[Unified Command: Designating a Communications Unit](#)** (*Salt Lake County, Utah, Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan Full-scale Exercise, 2006*)
When unified command is established for a major incident, the communications unit leader should appoint a deputy to handle logistical and paperwork responsibilities.

Practice Notes

- **[Disabilities and Special Needs: DeWitt, New York, Police Department's Training Program on Communicating with Individuals Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#)**
The town of DeWitt, New York's Police Department collaborated with local deaf social services agencies to teach police officers strategies for communicating with individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing.
- **[Disabilities and Other Special Needs: Virginia's "Preparing for All Abilities" Workshops](#)**
Partner organizations in Virginia, including the Virginia Departments of Health, of Emergency Management, and for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, collaborated to create the "Preparing for All

Abilities" workshop. Each free workshop, offered between March and June in 11 different Virginia locations, facilitates greater communication and understanding among emergency managers, Virginians with disabilities, and advocates for the disabled.

- **Exercise Conduct: Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Utilization of Modeling Software in Exercises**

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security, in partnership with Purdue University, utilized software to create a customized "mixed reality environment" simulation. The software projects the results of actions taken by participants during the exercise. This practice ensures that exercise players understand the consequences of the actions they take during simulated response.

- **Emergency Field Medicine: The Texas Army National Guard's Combat Life Savers Course**

Texas Army National Guard soldiers participating in Operation Jump Start complete a 3-day Combat Life Savers course prior to deployment to the US-Mexico border. This training course teaches soldiers the necessary skills to treat potentially fatal injuries.

- **Exercise Planning: Jacksonville, Florida's Pre-Exercise Training**

The Jacksonville, Florida, Region 3 Domestic Security Task Force Interoperable Communications Committee held a full-day training session on its Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) prior to its TICP full-scale exercise. This training was conducted by Interoperable communications Technical Assistance Program representatives, and introduced exercise participants to their roles in the TICP and provided them with a primer on TICP terminology.

- **Exercise Program Management: Clark County, Nevada's Extended-Length Exercises**

The Clark County, Nevada, Office of Emergency Management conducts extended-length exercises to prepare local responders for the challenges of a major incident. These exercises enable the county to identify and address challenges associated with shift changes, logistics, and other issues that occur during extended response operations.

- **High-Rise Fires: Chicago, Illinois, Fire Department's Rapid Ascent Teams**

The Chicago, Illinois, Fire Department has developed dedicated high-rise search and rescue units called Rapid Ascent Teams (RAT). RATs search floors, hallways, elevators, and stairwells for endangered building occupants and firefighters throughout the response to high-rise fire incidents.

- **Hurricane Preparedness: The Florida Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross's Storm Surge Markers**

The Florida Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross installed hurricane storm surge markers along the capital area's gulf coast to help educate residents about the hazards of a hurricane storm surge. The markers are wooden posts painted a series of colors to indicate the estimated levels of storm surge associated with different categories of hurricanes.

- **Interoperable Communications: Louisville/Jefferson County's MetroSafe Communications System**

The Louisville/Jefferson County, Kentucky, Metro Emergency Management Agency launched the MetroSafe communications system in September 2005. The MetroSafe program consolidated the 911 dispatch system, Louisville Metro Police Department, Louisville Fire and Rescue, local government radio, and Louisville Metro Emergency Medical Services communications. MetroSafe also provides interoperable communications for the other 13 counties that comprise the Louisville Urban Area, an Urban Area Security Initiative area.

- **Mass Decontamination: Connecticut Capitol Region Metropolitan Medical Response System's Guidelines for Hospital-Based Directed Self-Decontamination**

The Connecticut Capitol Region Metropolitan Medical Response System Taskforce on Decontamination Protocols's "Rapid Access Mass Decontamination Protocol" includes self-decontamination instructions that medical personnel can supply to selected contaminated victims at healthcare facilities. These victims can use the instructions to self-decontaminate after a chemical, biological, or radiological incident.

- **Shelter Operations: Arlington County, Virginia's Mobile Emergency Pet Shelter**

Arlington County, Virginia, maintains a mobile pet sheltering supply trailer to accommodate pets that are evacuated in an emergency. The trailer contains animal food, animal crates, medications, water, and other pet supplies.

- **[The Fire Department of the City of New York's Incident Management Teams](#)**

The Fire Department of the City of New York established Incident Management Teams in order to manage large, complex incidents more effectively.

- **[The National Domestic Preparedness Coalition's® Homeland Security Comprehensive Assessment Model™](#)**

The National Domestic Preparedness Coalition's® Homeland Security Comprehensive Assessment Model (HLS-CAM™) helps jurisdictions systematically and objectively evaluate their communities for strengths and weaknesses; evaluate threats including all hazards; and identify and prioritize critical facilities, infrastructure, resources, assets, and events. It also provides an onsite vulnerability assessment methodology to identify vulnerabilities of critical infrastructure and key resources. The HLS-CAM™ is methodology designed by the NDPCI, developed by emergency responders for emergency responders.

[\[Top of Page\]](#)

Upcoming *LLIS.gov* Conference Participation

The *LLIS.gov* team travels around the country speaking and exhibiting at conferences and events. *LLIS.gov* staff will attend and speak at the following upcoming events:

- **09-10 May: Ready!/GovSec/US Law Enforcement Conference (Washington, DC)**
- **14-16 May: Ohio Spring Public Health Combined Conference (Columbus, OH)**
- **14-18 May: 2007 Governor's Hurricane Conference (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)**
- **31 May - 03 June: International Hazardous Materials Response Team Conference (Hunt Valley, MD)**

Feel free to drop by our booth or speak to our staff at any of these events and share your comments and questions about *LLIS.gov*. Please contact the *LLIS.gov* Outreach Team at outreach@llis.dhs.gov with any questions or comments, or if you have a conference or event at which you would like the *LLIS.gov* team to present or exhibit.

[\[Top of page\]](#)

2007 National Campus Security Summit



Practical Measures for Campus Security: The All-Hazards Approach

The Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism (MIPT) and the University of Central Oklahoma present the 2007 National Campus Security Summit on May 30, 2007, on the University of Central Oklahoma campus in Edmond, Oklahoma.

This Summit will provide actionable steps for campus leadership. Participants will learn:

- The Psychology of Rage
- Privacy and the Law
- Preparing for Litigation
- Law Enforcement and Tactical Issues
- Communication

Registration opens May 1, 2007. Visit www.MIPT.org for details.

[\[Top of page\]](#)

LLIS.gov is a partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism, and is supported by DeticaDFI and the Henry L. Stimson Center.

The [Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism \(MIPT\)](#) is a non-profit, nationally recognized think tank creating state-of-the-art knowledge bases and sharing information on terrorism. Sign up for MIPT newsletters and announcements [here](#). Other MIPT systems include:



MIPT



THE
RESPONDER
KNOWLEDGE BASE

MIPT **TERRORISM**
KNOWLEDGE BASE™

If you would prefer not to receive messages to this email address, please log into www.LLIS.gov, go to "Settings" via the top navigation bar, and change the "How often do you want to be notified externally (when external notifications are sent out)?" setting to "Never."